

UN System Data Commons

Work Package 16 | Leads: Under-Secretary-General for Policy (EOSG); Under-Secretary-General (DESA), Executive Director (UNICEF)

OBJECTIVE

To make publicly available UN data easier to access and use, and to build stronger joint data capacity over time.

HOW WE GET THERE

- **Action 73: Build a shared UN System Data Commons platform** so that public data and statistics from different entities can be accessed in one place (data.un.org) and used reliably with AI tools.
- **Actions 74, 75: Establish a joint programme**, with shared governance, resources, teams and tools, to sustain the UN System Data Commons and improve the coherence, quality and future readiness of system-wide data work over time.

PROGRESS TO DATE

An initial Data Commons platform is being developed, formally encouraged by the Statistical Commission, with 25 entities now committed to contribute data to the next phase, as well as know-how or resources. A core delivery team and seed resources have been mobilized. A joint programme proposal is in development to sustain the shared platform and deepen progress on joint standards, production workflows, data maturity and AI readiness.

NEXT STEPS AND DECISIONS

- **Action 73:** The Data Commons platform will be expanded, including the onboarding of datasets from all 25 participating entities, with a public launch in **September**.
- **Actions 74, 75:** The joint programme proposal will be shared for consideration by participating entities, potential partners and the Secretary-General by July, with phased implementation beginning thereafter, including an information brief in **September**.
- No decision of an intergovernmental organ is envisaged at this stage.

QUICK SUMMARY: PATHWAYS AND PRODUCTS

Action	Pathway to decision	Products (dates)	Intergovernmental consideration
Action 73: Build a shared UN System Data Commons platform	Work package leads → Secretary-General	• Secretary-General's information brief (September)	-
Action 74, 75: Establish a sustainable Joint UN System Data Commons Programme	Work package leads → Secretary-General	• Secretary-General's information brief (September)	-